

FEB 23 1988

Mr. Alvin L. Zach, P.E., L.S.
Director, Newark Department
of Engineering
920 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Mr. Zach:

This letter is in response to your January 27, 1988, letter to Mr. Christopher Daggett which requested EPA to expedite the completion of removal action activities at the Arkansas site in Newark, New Jersey. On behalf of Mr. Daggett, the following information has been provided for your review.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated 24 hour site security at this site on January 20, 1987, following a request made by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). EPA performed an extensive preliminary assessment between February and August of 1987, working in close coordination with local and state officials. Actual site cleanup activities began on September 9, 1987.

The nearly 30,000 gallons of materials remaining on site are secured with plastic covers and inspected on a weekly basis by EPA. Twenty-four hour site security is being maintained as well. EPA never planned to cease operations at the Arkansas site. However, as the cost of this cleanup will exceed \$2 million, an exemption to the \$2 million cost ceiling for removal actions, that is mandated by CERCLA, will be required. This office is in the process of obtaining that exemption. Upon approval we shall obligate the necessary monies and complete the Arkansas site cleanup.

I thank you for your interest in this matter and look forward to a rapid conclusion of this removal action. If you have any additional questions or comments please feel free to contact Mr. Mark Pane at (201) 906-6813.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen D. Luftig, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response

cc: Richard T. Dewling, Commissioner, NJDEP
Sharpe James, Mayor
James Florio, U.S. Congressman

bcc: -2CCO

File: Pane; Arkan#38 Site

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SURNAME	Mr. Pane	A.H. Zach					
DATE	2-12-88	2/12/88					

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